



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

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SEAN W. DALY
REPRESENTATIVE

Testimony of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

For submittal to the Transportation Committee

SB Bill 975 An Act Concerning Revisions to the Transportation Statutes

March 8, 2013

To Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrero, and members of the Transportation committee, the IBEW appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony regarding SB 975 An Act Concerning Revisions to the Transportation Statutes. Our comments are specifically directed at section 15 of this bill, which would create an exemption in the Department of Consumer Protection occupational licensing statutes for employees of the Connecticut Airport Authority.

The IBEW represents over six thousand licensed electrical journeymen, journeywomen and apprentices statewide, and we pride ourselves on our continuous effort to ensure our workforce is educated and maintains a safe work environment. We feel licenses are important safety measures as they ensure a person has the appropriate training and experience specific to their trade which helps to reduce accidents on the jobsite. It is our opinion that the system breaks down as we create more and more licensure exemptions, and this has a significant impact on safety. For this reason, we are generally wary of adding to the already lengthy list of exemptions from licensure. However, it is our understanding that this exemption is being sought to allow employees of the Connecticut Airport Authority who were exempt from licensure when they were employees of the Department of Transportation under the longstanding exemption for state and municipal employees, to maintain that exemption under the newly created authority. Given this, we would feel more comfortable if the requested exemption could be written in as part of the exemption for federal, state, and municipal employees as in Section 20-340 (1) of the Connecticut General Statutes, rather than creating an entirely new exemption.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Sean Daly
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 90

IBEW